

From Europe come reports of the coldest wave in centuries. Siberia, Germany, the Balkans are suffering. In many regions the thermometer registered 40 below. Californians suffering their own "cold snap" felt more comfortable.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hoover visited Thomas A. Edison, the occasion being the 52nd birthday anniversary of the wizard of Menlo Park. Henry Ford is going to plant and cultivate 22,000 acres with Mr. Edison's rubber weed. The wizard told the president-elect, Mr. Edison deplored increasing stock speculation; declared all the states along the gulf coast could profitably grow the rubber weed; favored a larger navy; attacked public ownership of utilities. Photographers took pictures of the party, the Hoovers, Harvey, Firestone, Henry Ford. Ford sought the background of the picture, was called forward by Mr. Hoover.

Henry Ford announced the donation of \$5,000,000 for a technical school and museum to house the historical scientific collection of his friend Edison. The museum will be at Dearborn, Mich., will keep for all time exhibits showing the evolution of the incandescent lamp, trolley, telephone and other scientific articles.

Since 1870 the Vatican and the Italian government have been at odds. This is ended. Cardinal Gasparri, papal secretary of state, acting for Pope Pius and Premier Mussolini, acting for himself but ostensibly for King Victor Emmanuel signed the treaties ending the differences between the church and the state. With the signing of the documents the Pope will be no longer referred to correctly as "the prisoner of the Vatican."

In France flowers are sent for funerals, never in large volume to the sick. Marshal Foch is ill. Americans sent large bouquets. The marshal was worried. "Do they think my end is near?" he asked. Informed of the American custom, he was relieved.

The engine and two cars on Provisional President Porfirio Gil (Mexico) were blown from the track, the whole train shuddered, trembled. It was dynamite on the track. The provisional president was uninjured.

Can Germany pay the reparations? If so when and how much at a time? In Paris met the international reparations committee to decide. Their answers will have an important bearing on the history of the world for the next few decades. Heading the committee is Owen D. Young, American financier. J. P. Morgan is also on the commission.

Dictator Primo de Rivera of Spain told a newspaperman that his only purpose in remaining at the head of the government is to establish permanently a truly parliamentary form of government; that in two or two and a half years he would resign.

"Viva!" The word ended abruptly as a score of rifle shots banged. A bullet struck, fell. Jose de Leon Torral, who assassinated President-elect Obregon of Mexico was dead.

One hundred thousand persons tried to witness the execution. Only a few hundred were permitted admission. Three were killed, thirty injured in the crush to gain entrance. Snow fell heavily. The wind rose. Whirls of white filled the air, stung the faces of men. People took to their homes, built fires. The snow whirled steadily. After days the storm ended. But the town of Gradaco, Jugo Slavia was buried. Rescuers arrived, started digging. Nine days later house-entrances were reached. Three thousand persons were liberated, half-starved, half-frozen, some delirious with fever, others insane. The last ounces of food and fuel had been consumed. The people had resigned themselves to death.

The world-wide penchant for "petting" has met at least one stern rebuff. In Budapest police are arresting all petters, even men who embrace their wives in public. Couples are prevented from walking down the street arm in arm.

Miss Bobby Trout, 17-year-old Los Angeles girl, stepped smilingly out of her Golden Eagle monoplane at Mines Field. She had established a new world record for women—17 hours, 7 minutes, 3 seconds of continuous flight.

William Kearns of Chicago is 82 years old. He is married. For 36 years he has stayed home every night. Suddenly William, spry despite his years, decided to "step out." He did. Amazed when he did not come home. Mrs. Kearns was nervous. In the wee hours of the morning he arrived in a damaging mood. He picked up furniture, hurled it through windows, broke dishes, created havoc. Police came, took aged William to jail. William was still in a happy frame of mind when he went before Judge Hartigan. "Thirty days," the court said. (Continued on Page 2)

# Torrance Herald

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## INCORPORATION UP IN LOMITA

### New Company Busy at Old Standard Machine Plant Here

#### OLD ISSUE BOBS UP AGAIN

Proponents Vision 35 Cent Raise in Taxes as 6th Class City  
CONSOLIDATION TALKED  
Some Favor Joining to Torrance and Making One Large City

All Lomita is discussing the question of incorporation.

Proponents of making a sixth class city of the community declare that with an increase of 35 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation plenty of money would be available to run the city.

Opponents of incorporation declare they will oppose the proposition, if an election is held, because of the necessary increase in taxes.

Still others declare that the community should not incorporate but should consider the advisability of consolidating with Torrance and making one large city with one overhead expense rather than two.

The school favoring consolidation is growing both in Torrance and Lomita although the plan is believed to have insufficient support to carry through.

Several directors of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce are keeping an open mind on the subject and wish to study the problem in detail before taking any definite stand.

#### Deep Well Test Rumor in Error

Richfield Sidetracking Job Starts Report; Expect Test Soon, However

Statements published in Long Beach papers to the effect that the Richfield Oil Company is drilling a deep test well in Lomita near Pennsylvania avenue were proved erroneous this week when it was learned that the work on the Richfield well was merely a sidetracking job.

The drill crew re-drilled several hundred feet of hole and cemented the well off this week. It was authoritatively stated that the well will not be deepened.

Field men in the Torrance and Lomita area are looking forward to a deep test soon. Rumors of tests to be made soon are still flying thick and fast but none can be substantiated. Field men believe that some operator will make a try for a deep sand here before many months.

#### Motors from East; Favors Torrance

James B. Savery, of Russell, Mass., who is a guest at the home of Fred B. Hopkins, 1514 Engracia, crossed the continent in a Dodge coupe. Mr. Savery left Russell on Jan. 2, going to St. Petersburg, Fla., where he spent ten days. He visited Washington, D. C., where he was received by President Coolidge. Turning westward, he followed the Old Spanish Trail to California, arriving on the coast on Feb. 1. Mr. Savery, who was formerly assistant superintendent of the Berkshire Woolen Mills, is pleased with Torrance and its prospects and plans to remain here.

#### Observations

A Destructive Bill—Let the School Boards Give an Accounting—An Ulcer Brought to Light—Where a Nearby Wonder World Beckons

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

ASSEMBLYMAN HEISINGER of Selma has introduced into the legislature a bill which would practically eliminate the showing of moving pictures in the schools of California. To our way of thinking the bill should be defeated.

Without question the showing of films in schools is overdue in some places. Like any innovation it can easily be abused. But to prohibit all films in all schools because of abuses here and there would be absurd.

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce discussed this very matter at some length with school executives last week. If civic organizations elsewhere would do the same thing, abuses in the matter of showing pictures would be quickly eliminated. It would be as wrong to eliminate pictures entirely from the school program as it would to allow them to be shown without restraint. Assemblyman Heisinger probably intends well. Probably he does not realize that the reform he proposes may be retrogressive, rather than progressive.

ANY consideration of the public school system today must sooner or later reach the realm of economics. And when it does one glaring error in the financial practices of school boards stands forth.

Boards of education are not required to publish their financial statements.

PENDING in the legislature is a bill which provides for the annual publication of expenditures of every school and also of an opposition of the organization of teachers in California, whose political strength has always opposed permitting the public to discover anything more concerning school finances than is already known, inasmuch as expenditures are made, and tax levies assessed, at the instance of the educators who are the professional advisors of the city, county and district school boards.

THE following remarks from the San Bernardino Telegram are pertinent: "Every irrigation district in this state must annually publish a statement of its expenditures. National banks and state banks in California must publish statements periodically. Public administrators and city treasurers in most cities are compelled to publish statements and the law requires county boards of supervisors to lay before their constituencies at stated intervals detailed statements of the proceedings at their weekly meetings."

"BOARDS of education have been hitherto exempt from this requirement, for some reason that is not clear as to principle. As to fact, the reason why they have not been required to make their proceedings public as other public boards must do has lain in opposition of the organization of teachers in California, whose political strength has always opposed permitting the public to discover anything more concerning school finances than is already known, inasmuch as expenditures are made, and tax levies assessed, at the instance of the educators who are the professional advisors of the city, county and district school boards."

"THIS opposition has been unwarranted, not only because school boards should not be exempt from the requirements to which other governing bodies must conform, but the publication of school expenses would actually redound to the benefit of school administrators. The criticism to which boards of supervisors in California were subjected before publication of their proceedings became obligatory has been strengthened wherever government lays the facts as to its activities before the people."

"The growing restiveness of many taxpayers under increasing taxation for the maintenance of the public schools would be lessened if the taxpayers were annually advised where, how and why this money was spent. It would inure to the benefit of the educator because it would tend to allay the increasing distrust with which school administrations are regarded."

THE conviction of Ana Keyes and his two co-conspirators by a jury of twelve in Superior Court is a matter of major consequence to every sober-minded citizen in the Los Angeles County. It translates whispered gossip into terms of stark reality. The chief law enforcement officer of the greatest county in the United States has been adjudged guilty of a dastardly breach of conduct in office. One to whom the public looked to enforce the law prostituted it to his own greedy ends. There is no higher crime than this.

Personally we have no sympathy whatever for the former district attorney. It were much easier for us to respect a highwayman than a man who swears to uphold and enforce the law and then breaks it for his own gain, is society's worst enemy. He should be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

THE Keyes affair gave the public a glimpse of the ugly under-world ulcer which has for several years been eating at the vitals of the Los Angeles county and city governments. It dealt only with one activity of the poisonous leech. It takes not elastic imagination to vision other offshoots of the same parasite. Fortunately, when the existence of the ulcer became generally suspected there was an able surgeon at hand in the person of Byron Fitts. How well he is doing his work is indicated by the Keyes conviction and its sequel. May the surgeon's hand remain steady and his courage unshaken. May the public support which he now owns remain constant. There are other growths which may require major operations before the body politic hereabouts is purged of disease.

Let the good work go on and may the operations in the future, as that of the recent past, be performed without anaesthetic.

"AT our door lies a vast and rich empire of which few of us know very little. It is the west coast of Mexico, recently opened for the world by the Southern Pacific railroad. From Nogales south the steel rails pierce a country of romance and potential wealth which has lain dormant since the mellow days of the Montezumas. What names call to one—what songs lure to new visions of older, lovely days. Guaymas, Mazatlan, Guadaluajara, Tepic!

"ALONG the coast lie old cities, mellow with age. Mountains with their feet in the sea hold in their bosoms riches untold. Rivers rushing to the gulf water lush valleys yearning for the plow. What a world for the pioneer! What a journey for the tourist. Churches built before the Pilgrims set foot on New England soil. Soft tropic melodies—Indians who even today know not the use of gunpowder! And all within only a few hundred miles of Los Angeles. Boy! Page the Southern Pacific ticket man!

#### CHILDREN WIN PRIZES IN COLOR CONTEST



Prize Winners in Front of Torrance Herald Office

Prizes in the color picture contest held recently by the Torrance Herald and the Lomita News were awarded last Saturday noon at the Herald office.

Harry H. Dole, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce made a short address and awarded the winners as follows:

The Torrance Herald and Lomita News cash prizes went to the following winners: 1st prize, \$5 to Esther Stephens; 2nd prize, \$3 to Nancy Jane Hazelton; 3rd prize, \$2 to Virginia Barck and 12 prizes of 50 cents each to the following: Joy Fossum, Bonnie Jean Blodgett, Marjorie Lou Blair, Margaret Walker, Betty Alice Risden, Ruth Kasper, Phyllis and Buddy Howe, Virginia Green, Genevieve Guyan, Myrtle Gregg, Ralph Hawkins, and Edna Sopchinsky.

The Kern Creamery awards were presented to the following: 1st prize, \$3 to Cornelius Peet; 2nd prize, \$2 to Thelma Chaney and the third prize, \$1 to Alex Sopchinsky.

The cash award offered by Earl's Cafe was presented to Dick Clutter winner of \$2. Rock Bottom Market prize of slab of bacon to Paul Kasper. Torrance Flower Shop prize, a beautiful bouquet of flowers to Muriel Alverson. Baker Smith award, a sterling silver bracelet to Agnes Peet. Debra Radio Co., award to Stacy Griffith, a harmonica. Torrance Bakery, award, a beautiful decorated cake, to Vee Kasper. Washer, Wilson award, a beautiful warbler, to Mildred Clark. Dole Drug Company awards, the box of candy to Margaret Hogue and a flashlight to Jack Peterson. Hogue Stationery award, the fielder's glove to Paul Dunlop and imported pottery to Emily Bechtel. Buckler's Shoe Store award, a fine pair of bed room slippers, to Hazel Briney. Worrell Hardware Co. award to Gerald Templeton, a Scout axe. Humpty Dumpty award, a \$2 merchandise order to George Smallback. Ed Tansey Barber Shop and Beauty Parlor awards, a free haircut to Ruth Barnard and James Coll.

Those receiving honorable mention are: Charles Marele, Ramona Carlin, Korena Carlin, Donna P. Miller, Artis L. Miller, Ella May Ott, Dorothy McMillan, Ariya Fossum, Nellie V. Savage, Phyllis Jeanne Schultz, Helen Greiner, Maxine Clark, Billy J. Ross, Dorothy Erus, Marion Bates, Irene Hoke, Dorothy Jenkins, Earl Lock, Billie Andrus, Clara Roventstein, Jane Chandler, Marguerite L. Savage, Dick Beecher, Earl Dills, Freddie Hancock, Lucille Howe, Eugene Dunlop, Rex Clark, Martha Hoke, Laura May Hyde, Corinne Nickerson, Ethel Creighton, Mary Sanders, Paul Harestad, Jr., Josephine Katherine Bennett.

#### COME SEVEN!

Shades of Brunswick stew! Enticing odors waft from the portals of Bud Peagars Barbecue Lunch Room and Billiard Parlor, happy song rises from the tubs where Elzevir Nesbit scrubs at her white folks' washing, when she isn't quarrelling with that wretched 'Rias Nesbit, past master in the art of doing nothing, and doing it continuously and uninterruptedly.

Mischievous pookanninies tug at the coat-tails of dignified and all-ver-tongued Lawyer Evans Chew, and dastardly beautiful maidens make eyes at Florian Slappy, fashion plate, social leader, secretary of the Sons and Daughters of I Will Arise, second vice-president of the colored chauffeurs Social Club (in which the price of membership is a boss who drives a not less than four thousand dollar) dreamer of dreams and a schemer of scheme.

All of which is a way of announcing that the annual Woman's Club Play is under way, and this year it is to be a hilarious comedy by Octavus Roy Cohen, with an all-colored (for the occasion) cast.

Not a Minstrel Show, but three acts of the funniest comedy that ever sent you out into the night air holding your aching sides.

The date has not been definitely set, but will be announced very soon.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLED

Torrance Fire Department was called out Sunday morning when the slipping and friction of the belt on the ice plant at the Crap Post Market at Cravens and Post avenues, caused the store to fill with smoke. The call was received at 12:05. The fire was out before the fire department arrived. No damage was done.

#### SMITH IS HEAD OF CONCERN

Emsco Chief President of National Tools and Metals, Inc.

MANUFACTURE ANGLITE  
Hard Metal for Oil Drill Bits Being Made Here

E. M. Smith of Emsco fame is president of the National Tool and Metals, Inc. which has taken over the plant, formerly owned and operated in Torrance by the Standard Machine Company and which is now operating at steady production in the manufacture of Anglite, a hard metal for oil well bits.

The new company has recently been incorporated. Demand for the company's product is brisk and orders are being delivered, daily.

The plant is located just east of Border avenue south of the Soyle Steel Company.

M. G. Brumbly is vice-president of the company and J. E. Pooler, secretary and manager of the plant.

Well-established and making a much-sought product the company is numbered among the most substantial of the new industries of the district.

Legion Initiates 20 New Members

Rolling Party, Held at Post Clubhouse Here, Tuesday Night

Twenty new members were initiated into the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion at the post meeting in Legion Hall Thursday night. The initiation ceremony was presided by a chicken dinner and a rollicking social program.

The Ingelwood post conducted the initiation. More than 100 Legionnaires attended.

"Harmonious Joe" favored with a flock of selections and Tom Boyker enlivened the evening with his always welcome stories and songs.

The post's "two black crows" staged a laughable black face dialogue.

Slick Gaster formerly of the Orpheum circuit and a member of the post sang some splendid opera selections.

On Friday evening the Ingelwood post will stage a show and a large delegation from the Torrance post is planning to attend.

#### Evangelist Will Conduct Meetings at Local Church

A. F. Ritchey, one of the foremost evangelists of the Christian church, will conduct a series of evangelistic services at the Torrance Christian church, located on Engracia at Arlington, beginning February 21th. Mr. Elder, pastor of the local Christian church, says: "I consider Mr. Ritchey one of the strongest and most effective evangelists in our brotherhood. He knows the Book and knows how to present it. He is both teacher and preacher. His sermons are rich in mature thought, in apt, vivid illustration; and they sparkle with a spontaneous wit and humor which is hugely enjoyed by his audiences."

#### Keystone Spouse Has Mate Jailed

H. R. Raynes, 47, of Keystone, was arrested Feb. 9 on the complaint of his wife, who charged him with disturbing the peace.

(Continued on Page 2)